

Section 2. Alternative Programs

To introduce a section on Alternative Programming one should define the purpose of alternative programming. From there we can set the criteria for success for individual programs. We encounter many youth who do not meet the criteria during booking for an out right release, thus the child is held. However, these children also do not meet the criteria for secure detention either. This is where alternative programming is most useful. The purpose, therefore, is to allow qualifying youth to return to the community rather than incarcerating them pending adjudication. The criteria for success for each program are included under that programs presentation below.

At BCJDC we have the following up and running programs (which do not include court run programs):

1. Community Custody Program (CCP)

2. Youth Reporting Center (YRC)

3. Mental Health Center (MHC)

4. Assisting Youth Using Drugs and Alcohols (AYUDA)

Alternative programs impact detention statistics that include overall bookings, release numbers, number of warrants issued, number of probation violations, recidivism rates, number of bed days (and associated costs), LOS and ADPs.

Alternative Programming Section 2. Part 1. Community Custody Program (CCP)

The primary objective of the Community Custody Program (CCP) is to provide an alternative to detention. A child is made eligible by the Risk Assessment Instrument, by an officer of the court or by a referral from the Juvenile Probation & Parole Department working in collaboration with the CCP staff. The CCP staff screens each child's case to determine the

appropriate supervision level. The assessment includes both the needs and the public risk factors presented by each child.

The program employs a flexible system of six levels of supervision that are graduated and range from minimal supervision to moderate for the average offender. The additional three levels are intensive supervision with electronic enhancements, increased face-to-face contacts with random field checks at school, work or home for offenders with recurring concerns.

The Community Custody Program's operation is defined by a treatment/rehabilitation philosophy that provides individual assessment to determine the services each child should receive. The Community Custody Program offers counseling, recreation, group therapy and mandates community service that delivers service to senior citizens in the community. The program provides outreach by sending officers into the community to facilitate services and provide supervision. The criteria for success is measured by a child not re-offending, arrested and booked, while being monitored by the CCP staff prior to being adjudicated on the current charge which the child came into the program with.

The following are the top nine charges youth came into CCP with last quarter:

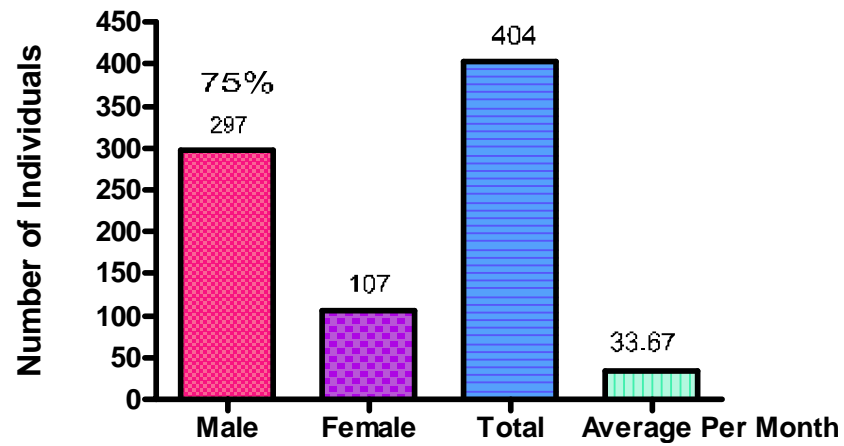
- 1. Domestic Violence**
- 2. FTA/Bench Warrants**
- 3. Assault**
- 4. Drug Possession/Trafficking**
- 5. Auto Theft/Burglary**
- 6. Residential Burglary**
- 7. Capital Crimes**
- 8. Aggravated Assault w/Deadly Weapon**

9. Shooting from or at a Motor Vehicle

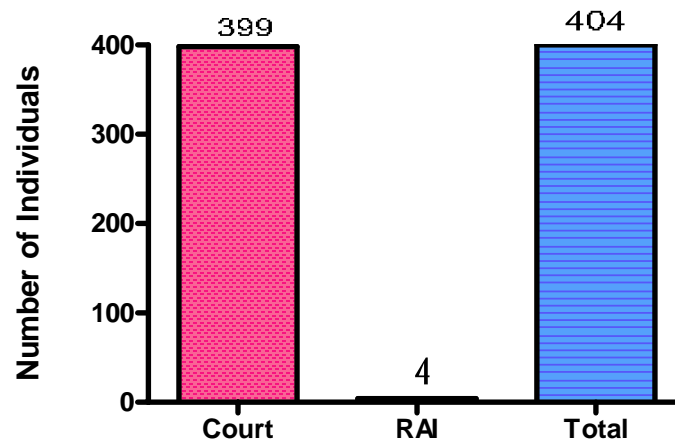
CCPs youth population mirrors the detention population which suggest that staff are deterring youth from detention to Alternatives at the same rate that youth are being booked. This has its pluses and minus. Females have not been enrolled in CCP at the same rate as males (given the booking and release rates reported above). Females need this extra monitoring while in critical care treatment. Value Options is approving in patient care less frequently. For this reason, females especially need high level monitoring while receiving mental health treatment to help prevent relapse and subsequently re-offending.

Preliminary data from the Needs Assessment study shows that females tend to commit, at a significant rate, more conduct and drug and alcohol crimes than any other crime. These individuals should be prime candidates for alternative programs, like CCP. The ratio of male/female holds to alternative treatment is inequitable when one considers crimes committed by gender. In other words, females, on average, commit lower level crimes at higher rates than do males. The majority of these females should be released to alternative programs at a higher rate than are currently being released. A mitigating factor in the past to divert more females to alternative programs such as CCP has been the high rate of females in need of critical care therapy for continued self-abuse, such as drug abuse. In these cases it has been suggested that detention alternatives should be dually utilized (CCP and MHC). Below find the overall client activity for CCP for 04/05. Seventy five percent of clients consist of males while the remainder 25% are females.

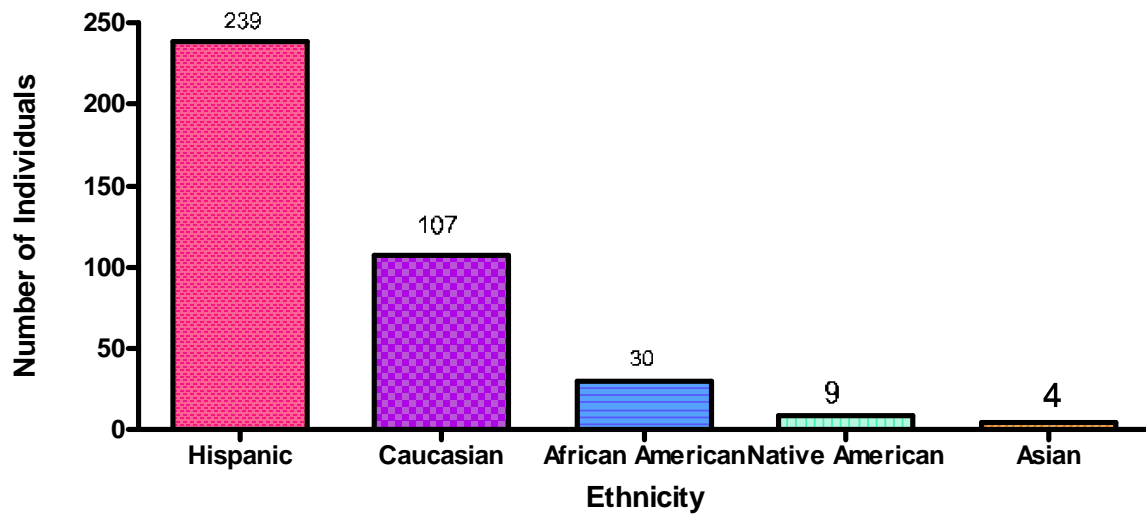
Overall Client Activity for CCP



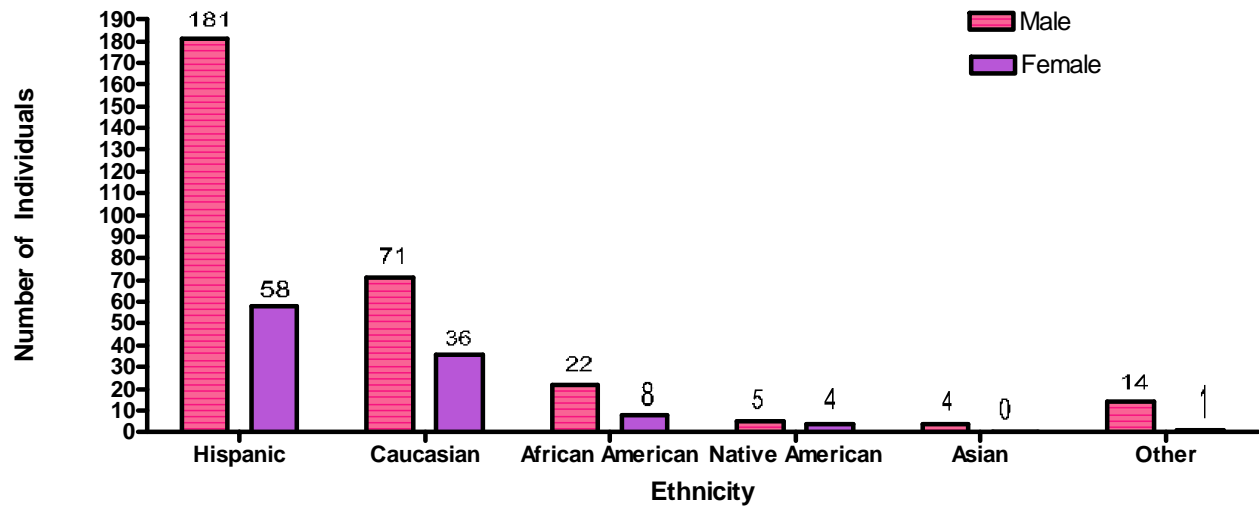
CCP Referral Source



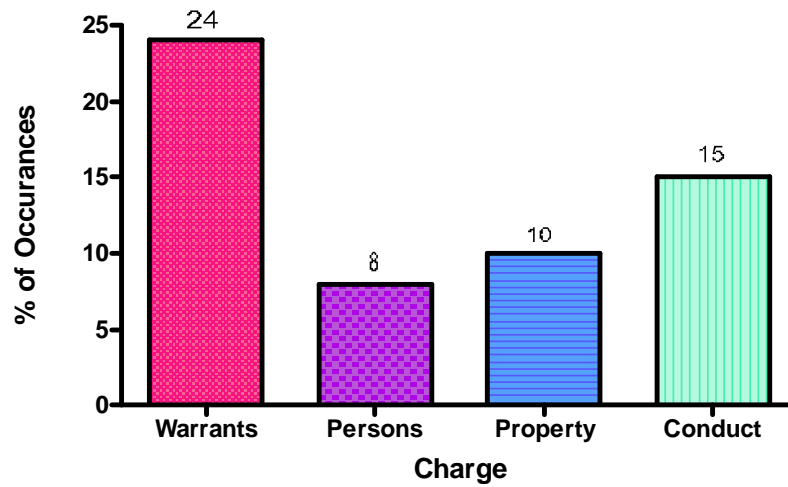
Ethnic Make-up for CCP Clients



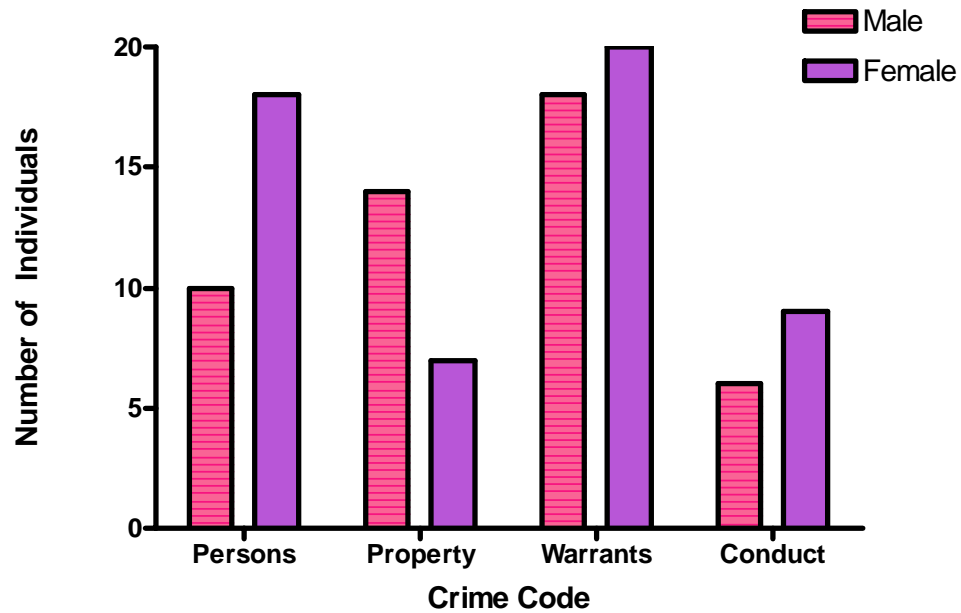
CCP Clients by Ethnicity and Gender



Top Offenses Coming into CCP 04/05



Top Charges into CCP by Gender



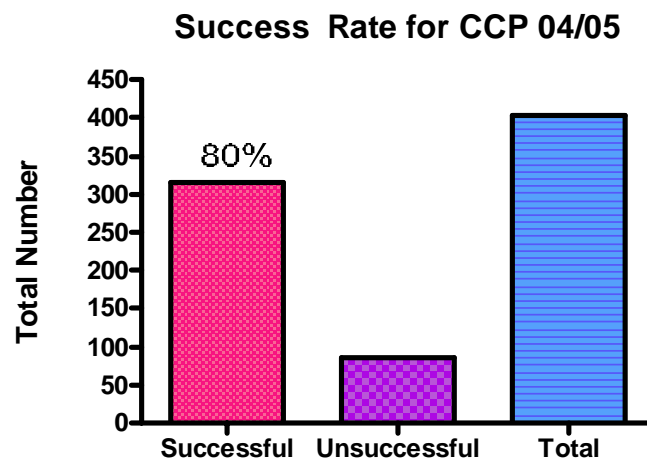
No Significant Difference in Crime Committed

N = 139

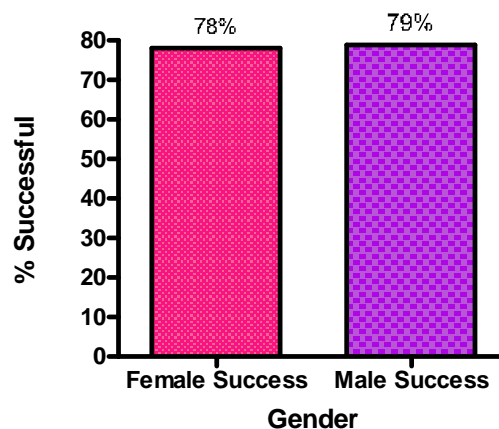
n = 69 females 70 males

Having no significant differences in types of crime supports the contention that females may not be accepted at a higher rate when factors other than flight risk or flight risk that is

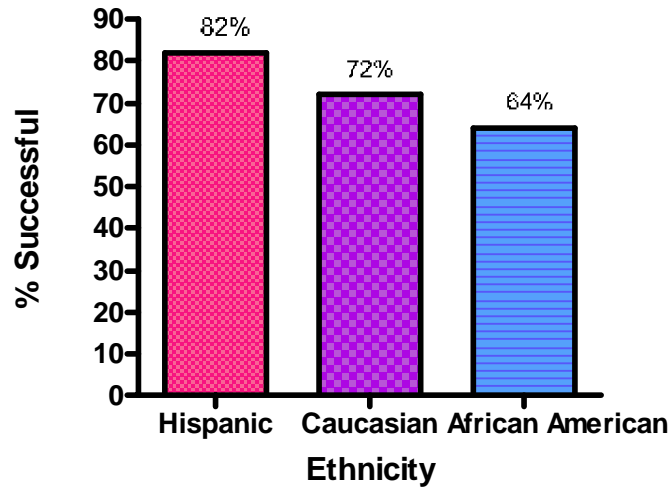
associated with factors other than crime committed are criteria for acceptance into the program. As seen below females are as successful as males in CCP. However, ethnicity appears to influence success rates for both males and females (below). This does not mean that a minority cannot be as successful as a non-minority. It may be that non-minorities have stricter probationary agreements, for example. Again, we do not know where the inequitable treatment is occurring in juvenile justice practice. We do know (as shown above) that it is happening. Follow-up assessments will be reported in the next fiscal report (June 06)



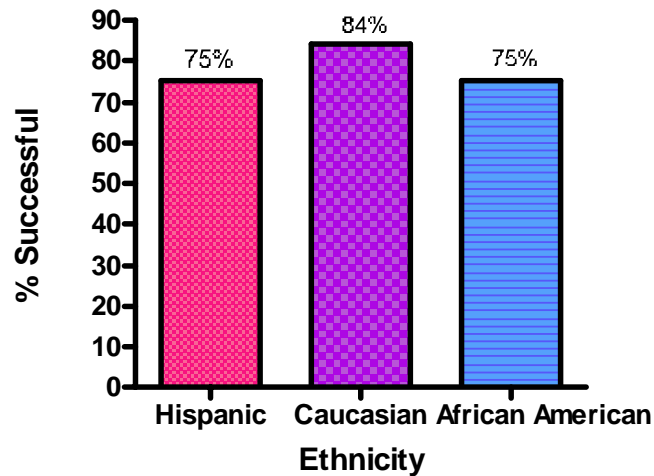
CCP Program Outcome by Gender 04/05



Male CCP Program Outcome by Ethnicity 04/05



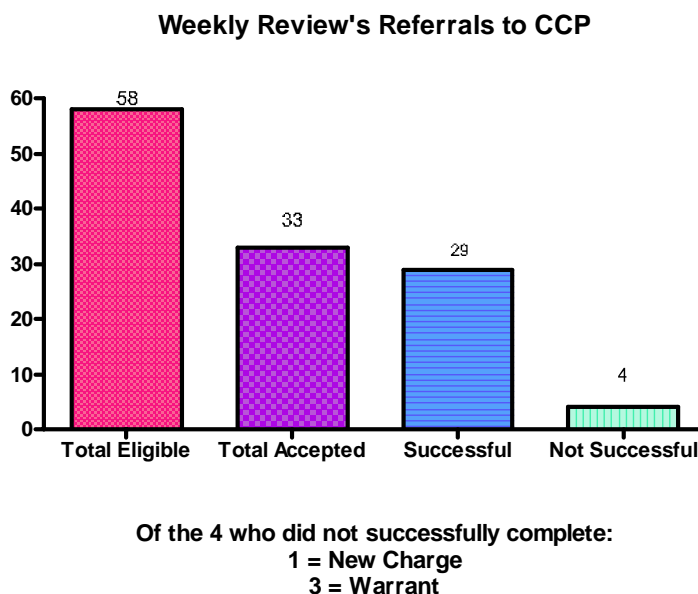
Female CCP Program Outcome by Ethnicity 04/05



There were no differences in referral source as a function of gender (no graph presented). Regardless of one's gender mainly the court referred them. This leads to question what influences judges to hold or release a child who is male or female if crime is constant between both male and female? Judges consider many factors prior to deciding which youth are released and which are

held. One of these factors is the recommendation received by both the 11:00 liaison committee and the newly established 8:30 liaison committee. Both committees and those responsible for recommendations can be found in the flow chart titled, “Bernalillo County Juvenile Detention Center’s Continuum of Care” in Appendix D. With regard to females, the judges may not be receiving a complete service plan needed to convince officials that release without re-offense is probable.

A referral gained from a RAI score is a newly established tool that our liaison teams utilize when making recommendations for release or holds. The scores fall into the “medium scores” of 8-11. Statistical validation is currently underway in collaboration with the state. These results will be reported in the next fiscal year’s report, 05/06.



Youth who are referred to CCP by the weekly reviews are considered “higher risk” individuals. These were clients who were held at every point in the process. As shown above, about 80% of these youth were successful in CCP. Only 4 youth accepted into CCP, who were referred by the weekly reviews, were not successful and only 1 of these youth committed a new crime. This

work group has been most successful with what the detention center considers its most risky population to be considered for alternative release.

In summation, CCP has been very successful thus far in monitoring youth prior to disposition without re-offense. The next fiscal report hopes to focus more on CCP's ability to evenly distribute acceptance into the program with reference to gender and ethnicity.

Alternative Programming Part 2. Youth Reporting (YRC)

In collaboration with the Bernalillo County Juvenile Detention Center, Second Judicial District Court and Juvenile Probation and Parole Office, the Youth Reporting Center is dedicated to offering continuing services that provide positive alternatives to secure detention. Programming provided by the Youth Reporting Center offers a wide variety of structured programs that are geared toward skill based instruction that promote, encourage and reinforce proactive and acceptable social behaviors. The Second Judicial District Court or the Children, Youth and Families Department make referrals in conjunction with the Juvenile Probation and Parole Office.

